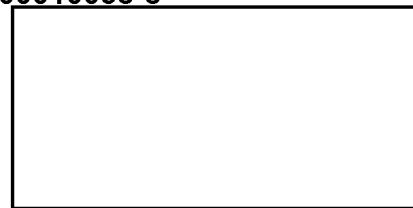


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BRIEF

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CHINA: PEKING'S REACTION TO THE ONGOING MIDDLE EAST
NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN LOW KEY.4

THE ONLY PUBLIC CHINESE COMMENTARY HAS BEEN A NEWS RELEASE
ON AUGUST 23 THAT SKETCHED IN THE BACKGROUND OF SECRETARY
KISSINGER'S LATEST EFFORTS BUT PROVIDED FEW DETAILS. THE
REPORT DEVOTED AS MUCH ATTENTION TO MOSCOW'S ATTEMPTS "TO
CONTINUE ITS EXPANSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST" AND "SELL OUT"
THE ARABS AS IT DID TO THE CURRENT US MEDIATION EFFORT. THE
IMPLICATION THAT THE US HAS MAINTAINED THE INITIATIVE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST, "BRUSHING THE SOVIET UNION ASIDE," CAN BE VIEWED
AS AN OBLIQUE STAMP OF APPROVAL.4

ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE HAVE FOR SOME TIME FAVORED A NEW
INTERIM AGREEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BELIEVING THAT IT WOULD
SUBSTANTIALLY UNDERMINE THE SOVIET POSITION IN THE REGION,
THE OFFICIAL LINE FROM PEKING IS LIKELY TO REMAIN CIRCUMSPECT.
UNCERTAINTY OVER THE DEPTH OF MILITANT ARAB OPPOSITION TO A
SECOND-STAGE SINAI DISENGAGEMENT WILL BE A MAJOR FACTOR. PEKING

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HAS WORKED HARD IN RECENT MONTHS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH IRAQ AND THE PALESTINIANS SO AS TO DILUTE SOVIET INFLUENCE. FOR SIMILAR REASONS, CHINA HAS URGED CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN ARAB RADICALS AND THOSE LESS STRIDENT.4

FROM PEKING'S POINT OF VIEW, MORE VISIBLE SIGNS OF SUPPORT FOR AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT WOULD RUN THE RISK OF UNDER- CUTTING ITS EFFORT TO COURT THE ARAB MILITANTS AND OF SHARPENING DIFFERENCES WITHIN ARAB RANKS. 25X1

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1. PORTUGAL: PORTUGUESE ANTI-COMMUNISTS APPEAR UNSURE OF THE NEXT MOVE AFTER THEIR INITIAL EXPRESSIONS OF OPPOSITION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF VASCO GONCALVES AS ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF AND HIS REPLACEMENT AS PRIME MINISTER BY ADMIRAL AZEVEDO.4

SUPPORTERS OF THE ANTI-GONCALVES GROUP IN THE MILITARY LED BY MELO ANTUNES REPORTEDLY ARE CONSIDERING

SEVERAL OPTIONS, IN THE HOPE THAT THEY STILL MIGHT AVOID A MILITARY CONFRONTATION.

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[REDACTED] GENERAL CARVALHO HAS PLACED HIS INTERNAL SECURITY COMMAND UNDER THE DIRECT AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDENT, REMOVING IT FROM ANY THREAT OF CONTROL BY GONCALVES. ACCORDING TO A LISBON PAPER, THE PRO-GONCALVES COMMANDER OF THE NORTHERN MILITARY REGION HAS BEEN CALLED BACK TO LISBON; NO REASON WAS GIVEN.4

PORTUGUESE ARMY UNITS IN THE AZORES AND MADEIRA ISLANDS ALSO HAVE DECLARED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT CHANGES. THESE MOVES MAY BE DIRECTLY TIED TO ANTUNES' EFFORTS, BUT IF THE SITUATION CONTINUES UNRESOLVED, OR GONCALVES BEGINS TO ASSERT HIS CONTROL, THE DISSATISFACTION OF THESE UNITS IN THE ATLANTIC ISLANDS COULD BECOME SUPPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS THAT ARE NOW OPERATING MORE OPENLY IN BOTH THE AZORES AND MADEIRAS.4

MONDAY, THE AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF, WHO UP TO NOW HAS NOT TAKEN A POSITION ON GONCALVES, SAID THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER WOULD PROMOTE COMMUNIST INTERESTS IN HIS NEW POSITION. THE AIR FORCE

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CHIEF SAID HE APPROVED OF AZEVEDO AS THE NEW PRIME MINISTER, BUT THAT THE QUESTION OF THE GOVERNMENT FADED BESIDE THE NEW CONTROVERSY OVER GONCALVES.4

DESPITE THESE GROWING SIGNS OF OPPOSITION TO GONCALVES' APPOINTMENT AS ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF, THE PRO-COMMUNIST LEADER RETAINS ENOUGH SUPPORT TO MAKE HIM DIFFICULT TO DISLODGE. THE NAVY, WHERE ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO IS EXPECTED TO TAKE OVER THE CHIEF OF STAFF POSITION VACATED BY ADMIRAL AZEVEDO, WOULD PROBABLY SUPPORT GONCALVES IN ANY SHOWDOWN. GONCALVES ALSO RETAINS THE LOYALTY OF SOME ARMY UNITS IN THE LISBON AREA AND PROBABLY IN THE SOUTHERN MILITARY REGION AS WELL.4

PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES APPEARS TO HAVE CALCULATED THAT HIS SHUFFLING OF THE TOP MILITARY AND GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS WOULD DEFUSE THE POLITICAL CRISIS BY UNDERCUTTING THE ANTI-COMMUNIST FACTION OF MELO ANTUNES. THIS GAMBLE WAS BASED, AT LEAST IN PART, ON THE HOPE THAT THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF MARIO SOARES, WHICH FOCUSED ITS CAMPAIGN ON THE REMOVAL OF GONCALVES AS PRIME MINISTER, WOULD JOIN THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT.4

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THIS PLAY FOR SOCIALIST SUPPORT REPORTEDLY WAS BAITED WITH THE OFFER OF A MAJORITY POSITION IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT. SOARES REPORTEDLY HAS TURNED DOWN THIS OFFER, BUT IF THE ANTUNES GROUP FAILS TO TAKE ANY RESOLUTE ACTION, SOARES MAY YET DECIDE TO MAKE THE BEST OF THE SITUATION.4

MEANWHILE, THE COMMUNIST PARTY--WHICH MONDAY WITHDREW FROM A FRONT ALIGNING IT WITH SEVEN FAR-LEFT PARTIES--HAS ANNOUNCED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE CHANGE. VARIOUS SPOKESMEN, INCLUDING GONCALVES, HAVE INDICATED THAT WHEN THE CABINET IS ANNOUNCED THERE WILL BE ONLY A FEW CHANGES FROM THE GOVERNMENT THAT GONCALVES HAD HEADED.

2. EAST GERMAN AND CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA ASSAIL CHINA: TWO OF MOSCOW'S MOST LOYAL ALLIES HAVE LEVELED MAJOR PROPAGANDA BROADSIDES AT CHINA.4

THE EAST GERMAN PARTY DAILY ON AUGUST 25 CARRIED A SCATHING ANTI-MAOIST ARTICLE THAT ASSERTED THAT THE "REACTIONARY, AGGRESSIVE CIRCLES OF IMPERIALISM" HAVE THE MAOIST LEADERSHIP ON THEIR SIDE.

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PEKING WAS SOUNDLY CHASTIZED FOR ITS "MASSIVE AND VOCIFEROUSLY PROMOTED PREPARATIONS FOR WAR, OPEN ESTABLISHMENT OF BLOCS WITH THE REACTIONARY FORCES OF IMPERIALISM AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION...AND INTENSIFICATION OF MAOIST GREAT-POWER CHAUVINISM."4

PEKING WAS ALSO ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH MAOISM AS AN INTERNATIONAL CURRENT, TO WEAKEN THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OF THE PRO-MOSCOW PARTIES, AND TO MAKE TERRITORIAL CLAIMS AGAINST THE USSR.4

THE CZECHOSLOVAKS GOT INTO THE ACT THE NEXT DAY, WHEN BRATISLAVA PRAVDA CARRIED TWO ANTI-MAOIST ARTICLES. ONE CHARGED THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP WITH PLAYING AN "EXTRAORDINARILY HARMFUL ROLE" IN THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND OF ALIGNING ITS FOREIGN POLICY WITH "THE MOST REACTIONARY IMPERIALIST FORCES AND STATES." THE SECOND CHARGED THAT CHINA DOES NOT TAKE THE RESULTS OF CSCE SERIOUSLY AND ADVOCATES A BUILDUP OF AMERICAN FORCES IN EUROPE.4

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THESE ATTACKS, OBVIOUSLY INSPIRED BY MOSCOW, MAY
BE INTENDED TO START THE BALL ROLLING FOR A SHOW OF
SOLIDARITY AGAINST CHINA AT THE PREPARATORY SESSION
FOR THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IN
EAST BERLIN NEXT MONTH. BRATISLAVA PRAVDA HINTED AS
MUCH, STATING "THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES ARE
ARDUOUSLY ANALYZING THE NEW ELEMENTS OF THE SITUA-
TION, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES...."

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1: //PERU: IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC REMARKS SINCE ASSUMING THE PRESIDENCY ON AUGUST 29, GENERAL MORALES BERMUDEZ PUT EMPHASIS ON CONTINUING THE REVOLUTION BEGUN BY FORMER PRESIDENT VELASCO.//4

//MORALES BERMUDEZ HAS NOT SELECTED HIS CABINET BUT IT IS EXPECTED TO REFLECT THE NEW PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL CHARACTER-- GENERALLY MORE CAUTIOUS AND LESS PERSONALISTIC AND EXTREME THAN HIS PREDECESSOR. ANY POLICY CHANGES PROBABLY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED GRADUALLY AND WITH MINIMUM PUBLICITY.//4

//IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, MORALES BERMUDEZ PROBABLY WILL MOVE TO LOOSEN SOME OF THE MORE ONEROUS RESTRAINTS ON CIVIL LIBERTIES IMPOSED DURING VELASCO'S PRESIDENCY. THE APPOINTMENT OF A CIVILIAN TO THE CABINET--A MOVE MORALES BERMUDEZ APPARENTLY IS CONSIDERING-- WOULD BE A CLEAR SIGN THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION IN MIND.//4

//SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S TRADITIONAL, NON-MARXIST POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE EXPRESSED PUBLICLY THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP. DIRECTORS OF LIMA'S GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED AND

GENERALLY LEFTIST NEWSPAPERS REPORTEDLY HAVE RESIGNED, SIGNALING THEIR UNCERTAINTY OVER THE DIRECTION OF THE REGIME.//4

//FOREIGN REACTION TO MORALES BERMUDEZ' TAKE-OVER HAS BEEN LOW-KEY. CUBAN PRESS ACCOUNTS REFLECT A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE. CHILEAN LEADERS REPORTEDLY VIEW THE TAKE-OVER WITH CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM, BUT WILL WATCH EVENTS CLOSELY.//4

//THERE HAS BEEN NO VIOLENCE REPORTED IN PERU FOLLOWING THE CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANY SERIOUS OPPOSITION TO MORALES BERMUDEZ WILL DEVELOP, ALTHOUGH SOME OF VELASCO'S SUPPORTERS^{25X1} HAVE BEEN KEEPING THEIR OWN COUNSEL SINCE THE TAKE-OVER.

2.//ECUADOR: PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ ON SEPTEMBER 1 HAD LITTLE DIFFICULTY CRUSHING A COUP ATTEMPT LED BY ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL GONZALEZ ALVEAR.//4

//THE REBELS WERE SUCCESSFUL INITIALLY IN SEIZING THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN QUITO, BUT THEY WERE UNABLE TO SECURE THE SUPPORT OF OTHER MILITARY UNITS AND WERE FORCED TO SURRENDER AFTER GUNBATTLES IN WHICH SEVERAL DOZEN PERSONS WERE KILLED.//4

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//ALTHOUGH THE SEPTEMBER 1 COUP ATTEMPT WAS THE FIRST AGAINST THE FOUR-YEAR-OLD RODRIGUEZ REGIME, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL REPORTS THAT CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL AND BUSINESS GROUPS HAVE BEEN PLOTTING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. IN A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DURING THE COUP ATTEMPT, REBEL OFFICERS ACCUSED RODRIGUEZ OF COMMITTING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL ERRORS, AND OF MISMANAGING THE COUNTRY'S OIL RESOURCES. THE REBELS PROMISED TO HAND THE GOVERNMENT BACK TO CIVILIANS.//Y

//THE GOVERNMENT HAD RESPONDED TO CONSERVATIVE CRITICISM RECENTLY BY EXPANDING INCENTIVES FOR FOREIGN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, WHICH HAD VIRTUALLY CEASED AS A RESULT OF RESTRICTIVE NATIONALISTIC REGULATIONS. RODRIGUEZ ALSO APPOINTED A PRAGMATIC, MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PLANNING, AND REPORTEDLY INTENDED TO REPLACE LEFTIST ECONOMISTS AND TECHNICIANS WHO HAVE BEEN INFLUENTIAL IN SETTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICIES.//Y

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//THE COUP ATTEMPT IN ECUADOR IS NOT RELATED TO MORALES BERMUDEZ' TAKE-OVER IN PERU ON AUGUST 29.

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IN EGYPT, GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN ARE ATTEMPTING TO MINIMIZE THE CONCESSIONS MADE BY CAIRO, AND TO PORTRAY THE AGREEMENT AS PART OF A GENERAL MOVE TOWARD PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL FRONTS, INCLUDING THE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.4

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK, IN A WEEKEND SPEECH, EMPHASIZED THE AREAS IN WHICH EGYPT HAS NOT MADE CONCESSIONS AND CHARGED THAT THOSE WHO ALLEGE EGYPT HAS GIVEN UP ANYTHING SIGNIFICANT ARE ONLY "TRYING TO SOW DISSENSION." HE ASSERTED THAT EGYPT IS TAKING STEPS TOWARD PEACE, BUT WILL AGAIN RESORT TO FORCE IF ISRAEL "OVERDOES ITS PROCRASTINATION AND MANEUVERS."4

PRESIDENT SADAT, ACCORDING TO THE CAIRO PRESS, WILL SOON ADDRESS A JOINT SESSION OF EGYPT'S POLITICAL PARTY AND PARLIAMENT ON THE NEW AGREEMENT.4

THE SYRIAN PRESS OVER THE WEEKEND STEPPED UP ITS CRITICISM OF THE ACCORD. ON SATURDAY, THE SEMIOFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

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AL-THAWRAH ~~II~~ ATTACKED THE AGREEMENT AS A "PARTIAL SETTLEMENT THAT SERVES ONLY ISRAELI AMBITIONS AND AMERICAN INTERESTS." THE PAPER CHARGED THAT TEL AVIV WOULD SIGN ONLY TO UNDERMINE THE ARAB CAMPAIGN TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM THE UN AND TO SOLIDIFY ITS HOLD ON THE ARAB TERRITORY THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO OCCUPY.4

DAMASCUS RADIO ASSERTED THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL NOT LEAD TO GENUINE PEACE, BUT TO GREATER ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE. SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM HAD MADE THE SAME POINT TO NEWSMEN LAST WEEK AT THE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA, CHARGING THAT THE AGREEMENT COULD ULTIMATELY PROVE TO BE A STEP TOWARD WAR RATHER THAN A STEP TOWARD PEACE.4

THESE CRITICAL COMMENTS HAVE FOCUSED ON ISRAEL AND—TO A LESSER EXTENT—THE US. EGYPT, EXCEPT BY IMPLICATION, HAS BEEN SPARED. THIS ALMOST CERTAINLY REFLECTS PRESIDENT ASAD'S DESIRE TO AVOID DISRUPTING HIS RELATIONS WITH CAIRO AND AT LEAST MINIMAL CONFIDENCE THAT IT WILL PROVE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE FOR A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL.4

THE FACT THAT SYRIA'S ATTACKS ON THE AGREEMENT DO NOT MATCH

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THE SEVERITY OR FREQUENCY OF THOSE RAISED LAST SPRING SUGGESTS
THAT THEY ARE DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO HEAD OFF POTENTIAL UNREST
AT HOME.

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LEADERS OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION HAVE
INTENSIFIED THEIR CRITICISM OF THE ACCORD. THEY ARE CHAGRINED
AT THEIR OWN INABILITY TO MAKE GAINS OR EVEN BECOME INVOLVED IN
NEGOTIATIONS, AND ARE MOVING TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST ATTACKS
BY THEIR RADICAL COLLEAGUES, WHO NOW HAVE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE
TO SUPPORT THEIR ARGUMENT THAT EGYPT IS PURSUING ITS OWN ENDS
AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PALESTINIANS.4

PLO CHAIRMAN YASIR ARAFAT ON SATURDAY CHARGED THAT THE
"AMERICAN SOLUTION CANNOT AND WILL NOT SUCCEED." IN INTERVIEWS
WITH NEWSMEN, HE PROMISED TO REGAIN PALESTINIAN LANDS THROUGH
FORCE, THREATENED THAT THE PALESTINIANS WILL ATTACK ISRAELI
INTERESTS "ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD," CALLED FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT TO

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DEVISE A STRATEGY FOR COUNTERING THE NEW "AMERICAN INITIATIVE,"
AND ASSERTED THAT THE PLO WILL PERSEVERE IN ITS CAMPAIGN TO EXPEL
ISRAEL FROM THE UN.4

ALTHOUGH FEDAYEEN FROM LEBANON HAVE STEPPED UP THEIR
CROSS-BORDER ATTACKS ON ISRAEL—THERE WERE TWO THIS WEEKEND—MOST OF
WHAT ARAFAT SAID WAS DESIGNED ONLY FOR INTERNAL FEDAYEEN CONSUMPTION.
HE WITHHELD HIS STRONGEST CRITICISM UNTIL THE AGREEMENT WAS
VIRTUALLY COMPLETE AND AVOIDED DIRECT ATTACKS ON EGYPT. ARAFAT
PAID A QUICK VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA LATE LAST WEEK, PRESUMABLY
TO SOLICIT SAUDI HELP IN PRESSING SECRETARY KISSINGER TO INCLUDE
THE PALESTINIANS IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. ARAB STATES-ROMANIA: THE ARAB BOYCOTT ORGANIZATION,
MEETING IN CAIRO, ANNOUNCED ON THURSDAY THAT IT HAS ADDED ROMANIA'S
CIVIL AIRLINE, TAROM, TO ITS BLACKLIST OF FIRMS THAT OPERATE IN
ISRAEL. EARLY LAST YEAR THE ARABS THREATENED TO BLACKLIST ROMANIA
BECAUSE OF ITS DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL, BUT BACKED OFF AFTER
PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU INTERCEDED PERSONALLY TO FORESTALL THE MOVE.4
THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON THURSDAY GAVE NO REASON FOR THE DECISION.

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IN GAINING MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS WITH THE US RECENTLY,
BUCHAREST SIMULTANEOUSLY INCREASED THE NUMBER OF ROMANIAN JEWS
ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE. TAROM HAS OPERATED FLIGHTS INTO ISRAEL
SINCE 1968, AND PRESUMABLY WOULD BE A MAJOR CARRIER OF EMIGRANTS
TO ISRAEL.4

MOREOVER, THE BOYCOTT ORGANIZATION HAS APPARENTLY EASED ITS
CRITERIA FOR IMPOSING THE BOYCOTT ON OTHER BUSINESSES, REQUIRING
ONLY THAT A FIRM ESTABLISH IN AN ARAB COUNTRY AN ENTERPRISE
SIMILAR TO ITS OPERATION IN ISRAEL. HERETOFORE, ANY BUSINESS
THAT OPERATED IN ISRAEL HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO BLACKLISTING. INDIVIDUAL
ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE ALWAYS FOUND A WAY TO CIRCUMVENT EVEN THIS
RESTRICTION IF THIS SERVED THEIR INTERESTS.4

THE BAN ON TAROM IS AN EMBARRASMENT TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU,
WHOSE REGIME HAS SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES
IN THE MIDDLE EAST DISPUTE. BUCHAREST CAN NOW BE EXPECTED TO GO OUT
OF ITS WAY TO DEMONSTRATE ITS GOOD INTENTIONS TOWARD THE ARABS AND
REINFORCE ITS "IMPARTIALITY" IN THE DISPUTE. BUT IT IS UNLIKELY
THAT THE ARAB ACTION WILL INFLUENCE ROMANIA TO CHANGE ITS STANCE

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TOWARD ISRAEL.4

TAROM IS THE ONLY COMMUNIST AIRLINE THAT SERVES TEL AVIV AS WELL AS BEIRUT, CAIRO, AND ALGERIERS. IT OPERATES EIGHT FLIGHTS A WEEK TO THE MIDDLE EAST, TOTALING APPROXIMATELY ONE SIXTH OF ITS OVERALL INTERNATIONAL SERVICE. LOSS OF THE ROUTES TO ARAB COUNTRIES WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON TAROM, HOWEVER, SINCE ITS MOST LUCRATIVE ROUTES ARE THOSE TO WESTERN EUROPE.

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